



U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS SUMMARY

The United States Attorney announced today that 17 members and associates of the First and Keefe Vice Lords street gang have been charged with federal drug trafficking offenses. Ten of the defendants were arrested today as federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies searched a series of residences on Milwaukee's north side. Five other defendants are currently in state custody on related charges. Two defendants remain at large.

The following individuals are charged in the Indictment: Julius Arberry; Marlon Bates; Chad Caldwell; Jamie Douglas; Dwayne Haley; Gayle Kirk; Michael Kirk; Gregory Morse; Preston Morse; Clifton Penn; Lorenzo Sandifer; William Warren; Easie Money Wilkinson; Ed Wilkinson; and Jerry Williams. All of the defendants are from Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The Indictment charges that all of the defendants except Gayle and Michael Kirk conspired to distribute cocaine, crack cocaine, and marijuana from 2002 to October 24, 2006. If convicted of the conspiracy charge, each defendant faces a minimum term of 10 years and up to life in prison and a fine of up to \$4 million. The Indictment also charges the defendants with individual drug trafficking counts. Gayle and Michael Kirk are charged in a separate count with operating a drug house. If convicted of this offense, they face up to 20 years in prison and \$250,000 in fines.

This investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Milwaukee Police Department, and the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation, with assistance from other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

During the last four years, the United States Attorney's Office in conjunction with federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, has pursued a strategy of targeting entrenched Milwaukee street gangs. These include the Latin Kings, Vice Lords, Cherry Street Mob, Laotian Crips, the 2 - 4s, and the 2 - 6s.

The public is cautioned that an Indictment is a formal method of issuing charges and does not constitute evidence of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until the government establishes guilt by proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

A copy of the Indictment is attached.

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